hailstorms/rains. The request was examined and it was found that the calamity could not prima-facie be treated as one of rare severity to qualify for assistance from the NFCR.

An allocation of Rs. 57.63 crore (inculding Central share of Rs. 43.22 crore) has been made to Bihar under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) during 1998-99. The entire Central share has been released to the State. The first quarterly instalment of Central share was released on 1.4.1998, second on 1.7.1998 and the third and fourth in advance on 28.7.1998, An allocation of Rs. 138.76 crore (including Central share of Rs. 104.07 crore) has been made to Uttar Pradesh under the CRF during 1998-99. The entire Central share has been released to the State. The first quarterly instalment of Central share was released on 1.4.1998, second on 1.7.1998, third in advance on 25.8.1998 and fourth in advance on 27.8.1998. The first quarterly instalment of Central share of the CRF for 1999-2000 amounting to Rs. 27.125 crore has also been released to the Government of Uttar Pradesh on 2.12.1998, in advance.

(e) No, Sir.

**Seed Banks for Better Varieties**

946. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a policy to develop Seed Banks to maintain quality of varieties of seeds for use in case of inadequate rainfall in the country;

(b) whether any suggestion has been made by the Commission of Agricultural Coasts and Prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps proposed in this regard;

(e) whether there is a pilot project proposed for Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, status of this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is formulating a Central Sector Scheme for Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Banks to ensure timely availability of seeds to the farmers and also to take care of the special requirement of seeds at the time of natural calamity

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Commission for Agricultural Coast & Prices have recommended that the Government should develop Seed Banks to maintain adequate quantities of alternative varieties of crops which can be sown in delayed and inadequate rainfall situation in different regions of the country. Accourdingly, the Seed Bank Scheme has been proposed.

(e) and (f) There is no pilot project for Andhra Pradesh. However, various State Seed Corporations, including Andhra Pradesh State Seed Corporation, will participate in the Seed Bank Scheme.

**Proposal to give Industry Status to the Agriculture Sector**

947. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has made specific proposal in its recently conducted "Agro-Tech, 98" for reform in Agricultural Sector, demanding, *inter alia* that agricultural be given the status of industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether as a part of reform Government would be willing to allow free movement of agricultural products throughout the country to enable the farmers to get remunerative prices and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The draft National Policy on Agriculture, which is in the final stages of drafting, envisages unrestricted movement of all agricultural commodities throughout the country.

**Sale of Fertilizers**

948. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that spurious/adulterated fertilizers and insecticides are being sold in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that poor corp yield is because of non-availability of good quality of fertilizers and insecticides; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure availability of good quality fertilizers and. insecticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 ensures that only the fertilisers which meet the standards of quality laid down in the Order, are sold to the farmers in the country. During 1998 (Till September, 1998) as per the report of Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute, out of 1167 samples 2.1% samples indicated nutrient deficiency. The reports were sent to the States for taking action as per provision of Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1995. No specific complaint about sale of, spurious/adulterated insecticides in the country has been received in the recent past. By and large good quality fertiliser and insecticides are being sold in the country.

(b) Poor crop yield cannot be entirely attributed to the non-availability of good quality fertilisers and insecticides. Natural factors like untimely rains, fast winds, floods/droughts, etc. play their in reducing crop yield.

(c) To ensure that the farmers get the standard quality of fertilizers, States have been advised to regularly check the quality of fertilisers. The samples of fertilisers and insecticides are drawn by the notified Inspectors for analysis and report. Training programmes for Insecticides and Fertiliser Aanalysis and Inspector to up grade their knowledge and functional skill in the analysis and enforcement of various provision of Insecticides Act and FCO, are regularly organised, which are followed by periodical review during Zonal Conference.

**खाद्यान्नों,दलहनों और तिलहनों का उत्पादन**

949.**श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षो के दौरान प्रमुख खाद्यान्नों,दलहनों और तिलहनों का कितना-कितना उत्पादन हुआ ;

(ख) अगले तीन वर्षो में उपुर्यक्त वस्तुओं की कितनी-कितनी मांग और आपूर्ति होने की संभावना हैं तथा सरकार इनके उत्पादन में वृद्वि करने हेतु क्या कदम उठा रही हैं;और

(ग) गत तीन वर्षो के दौरान उपर्युक्त वस्तुओं की कितनी-कितनी मात्रा का आयात और निर्यात किया गया ?

**कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल)**: (क) वर्ष 1996-97, 1997-98 तथा 1998-99 के दौरान प्रमुख खाद्यान्नों,तिलहनों और दलहनों का उत्पादन इस प्रकार रहा :-

(मिलियन मीटरी टन में )

| फसल | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
|---|---|---|---|
| चावल | 81.73 | 82.30 | 82.23 |
| गेहूं | 69.35 | 65.90 | 69.13 |
| मोटे अनाज | 34.11 | 31.16 | 29.11 |
| दलहन | 14.25 | 13.07 | 14.78 |
| कुल खाद्यान्न | 199.44 | 192.23 | 195.25 |
| तिलहन | 24.38 | 22.02 | 24.22 |

(ख) "नौवीं पंचवषीरय योजना के निरूपण हेतु कृषि जिंसों की मांग और पूर्ति के पूर्वानुमानों तथा कृषि